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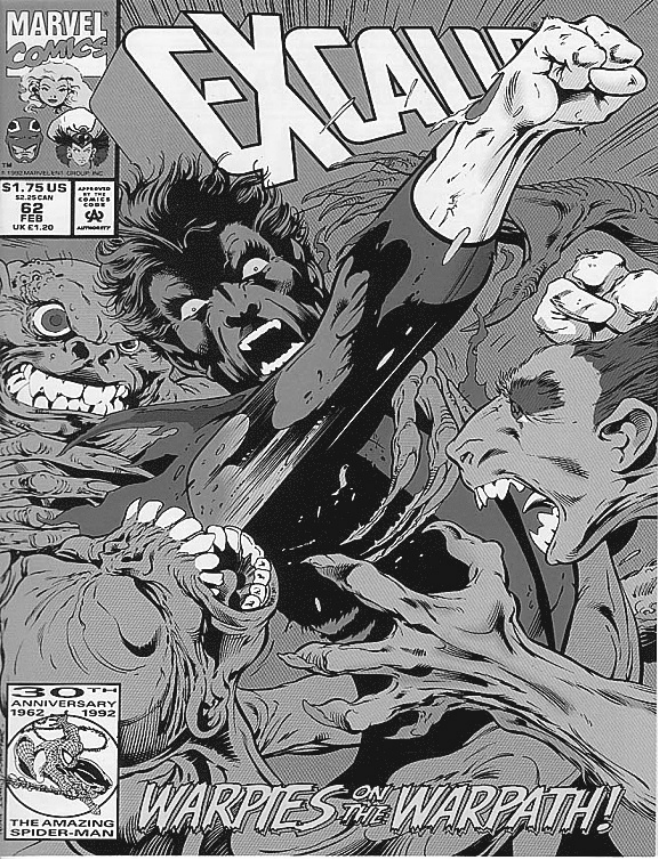
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EXCALIBUR



30TH
ANNIVERSARY
1962



THE AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN

WARPIES ON THE WARPATH!

THE POWERFUL CAPTAIN BRITAIN, THE SHAPE-CHANGING MEGGAN, THE INTANGIBLE SHADOWCAT, THE TELEPORTING NIGHTCRAWLER, THE MYSTERIOUS PHOENIX, THE EVER-UNPREDICTABLE WIDGET AND LOCKHEED THE DRAGON FORGED IN THE FIRES OF THEIR TRAGIC PASTS. THEY HAVE BANNED TOGETHER TO FIGHT A MODERN DAY CRUSADE AGAINST THE FORCES OF EVIL! STAN LEE PRESENTS...

EXCALIBUR!



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...MY PERSONAL GUARDIAN ANGELS, THE ADVOCATES, WILL BE ONLY TOO WILLING TO ACCOMMODATE YOU.

THEY ARE, ~~ABSUREEN~~ ANGUS-- CAREFUL NOT TO HARM THE GOOD DOCTOR, ANGUS, WE HAVE NEED OF HIS SERVICES--

-- MUSTARD, SHREW, SALT, AND GELERY.

UUP!

AWFULLY DULL AS CODE-NAMES. SO, I KNOW, BUT YOU MUST APPRECIATE NIGH ON FOUR HUNDRED PARAHUMANS ARE CONTAINED IN CLOUD NINE-- THAT IS THE NAME OF THIS FACILITY, BY THE BY.

OUR FIRST ACQUISITIONS RECEIVED COLORFUL 'NOM DE GUERRE', WITH APPROPRIATE NOUNS AND IMAGINATE ADJECTIVES BUT, AS NUMBERS INCREASED, CATEGORIZATION BECAME A PRIORITY.

SO WE SETTLED ON ANIMAL, VEGETABLE AND MINERAL DESIGNATIONS.

THEM AMERICAN SUPER HEROES IS GOT ALL THE BEST NAMES. I WANTED T'BE CALLED ROGUE!

SCARLET WITCH WOULD SUIT YOU BETTER.

NAW, SHE'S THE ORIGINAL, INCREDIBLE SULK!



OF BIRTH, DEATH AND THE CONFUSED, PAINFUL BIT IN BETWEEN

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TOM DE FALCO, EDITOR IN CHIEF

EXCALIBUR CREATED BY
CHRIS CLAREMONT & ALAN DAVIS



YOU'RE ALL
INSANE!

WHATEVER YOUR MAD
SCHEME IS, EXCALIBUR
WILL PUT AN END TO
IT.

I PHONED
THEM BEFORE
I WAS CAPTURED



I KNOW, DOCTOR
STUART, YOU WERE
UNDER SURVEILLANCE
PRIOR TO YOUR
PATHETIC ATTEMPT
TO INFILTRATE MY
ORGANIZATION.

MY AGENTS ALLOWED YOU
TO BREACH CLOUD NINE
SECURITY BECAUSE YOUR
PRESENCE SERVES AS
BAIT TO EXCALIBUR.

AND WHEN THEY ARRIVE,
A SUITABLE RECEPTION
WILL GREET THEM.



SEVENTY-FIVE FEET ABOVE CLOUD NINE STANDS THE CUMBLING RUINS OF ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH.

ANYTHING, GERISE?

I HAVE DETECTED A GEOLOGICAL ANOMOLY DIRECTLY BENEATH OUR POSITION BUT I CANNOT ASCERTAIN ITS PRECISE NATURE...

...OR, IF IT IS THE STRUCTURE FOR WHICH WE SEARCH. A DISRUPTIVE CLOAK IS BEING GENERATED IN THIS VICINITY.

WELL, IF SOMEONE IS GOING TO THE TROUBLE TO HIDE SOMETHING, THERE MUST BE SOMETHING TO BE HID

I'LL PHASE DOWN AND SCOUT AROUND.

NO, KATHERINE! WE MUST STAY TOGETHER.



IF YOU HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS, KITT, YOU SHOULD HAVE CALLED BRIAN AND MEGGAN BACK--

THEY HAVE TROUBLES OF THEIR OWN, KITTY.



IF THE SITUATION HERE ALLOWS, I WOULD PREFER NOT TO DISTURB THEIR VACATION. BUT, AS USUAL, WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT WE ARE DEALING WITH.

US, AIR NIGHT-CRAWLER?

YAB..?



US BEING THE SERAPHIM. A GROUP OF RATHER UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS.

I AM KNOWN AS PEANUT.



AND THAT IS WEASEL. SHE'S SNEAKY.

...AND VICIOUS.



CERGE IS ALREADY UNCONSCIOUS, YOU CREEP.



LET HER...

...OK...



THAT IS CORRECT. HE'S POISON.

ONE TOUCH PARALYZES ALL VOLUNTARY NERVE IMPULSES. THAT MEANS YOU STAY CONSCIOUS, BUT CAN'T MOVE A MUSCLE.



THEN I WILL NOT TOUCH HIM.

THAT WAS CLEVER, MR. NIGHT-CRAWLER.



BUT IT WILL NOT IMPROVE YOUR SITUATION -- PRINCE AND CARGASS WERE ASSIGNED TO DETAIN YOU.



"ONE IS
ROUGH, AS
IN HARD
AND SHARP."



"THE OTHER IS TOUGH, AS
IN RESILIENT - AND WITH
LITTLE SENSE TO BE
KNOCKED OUT OF."



"AND YOU WON'T BE
ABLE TO ESCAPE
THEIR RELENTLESS
ATTACK BY TELE-
PORTING."

"YOU SEE, MY GIFT
IS TO BREAK PEOPLE'S
CONCENTRATION..."



"...WHICH IS, OF
COURSE ESSEN-
TIAL FOR YOU
TO FACILITATE
YOUR POWER..."

"OOOPS!
EH!
PEANUT."



"...E AIN'T
NOVIN' NO
MORE."

"EXCALIBUR
AIN'T SO
TOUGH."

"PETER WILL NOT BE
PLEASED IF YOU HAVE
CAUSED PERMANENT
INJURY TO OUR
CAPTIVE."

"WE HARDLY
HIT HIM."



"YUH! TWO
F'UNDS AN'
'E WERE OUT
LIKE A LIGHT."

"M'BE 'E'S
GOT ONE
A' THEM
GLASS
JAWS..."

"OR M'BE HE
AN' PUMICE IS
GROWIN' SUPA'
STRENGTH."



"NO, MY DIM-
WITTED FOE, I
SIMPLY KNOW
WHEN IT IS
PRUDENT TO
PLAY POSSUM."



LIGHT YEARS AWAY, THE
PHOENIX DRIFTS LIFE-
LESSLY THROUGH THE
SILENT VASTNESS OF
INFINITY.

IT'S ONCE PROUD AURA NOW
A FLICKERING SHEN
SUFFICIENT ONLY TO PROTECT
RACHEL SUMMERS FROM
THE RAVAGES OF SINCE.

THE SERENE BEAUTY
OF THE AVATAR'S
HUMAN HOST BEGINS
ITS TORMENT AS IT
PLUNGES THE DEPTHS
OF DESPAIR.

RECALLING PROUD BOASTS
OF SUPREME POWER OF A
SINGULAR AFFINITY TO
CREATION--

-- THE GLORIOUS
EXPRESSION OF
THE UNIVERSAL
LIFE-FORCE.

WHEN IN REALITY, IT HAS
BECOME A PARASITE
WHOSE MERE EXISTENCE
CONSUMES THAT WHICH IT
ONCE CELEBRATED.

AND SINCE THE PHOENIX
CANNOT DIE WHILE THE
UNIVERSE ENDURES, IT
CONTEMPLATES AN ETERNITY
IN WHICH TO REGRET ITS
FOLLY.

SO, PARALYZED
BY GUILT, IT
PRAYS FOR
OBLIVION.

CLOUD
NINE...

THE SERAPHIM
ARE TAKING
EXCAVATOR TO
THE RECEPTION
AREA. WE CAN
MEET THEM
THERE.

EN ROUTE YOU
WILL HAVE AN
OPPORTUNITY TO
OBSERVE HOW
EXTENSIVE AND
WELL-EQUIPPED THIS
FACILITY IS.

IT WAS BUILT
LARGELY BY
UTILIZING THE
DIVERSE AND
UNIQUE ABILITIES
OF OUR
PARA-HUMANS.

WE HAVE LIVING
QUARTERS, GYM-
NASIA, DINING
AND SOCIAL AREAS,
LABORATORIES --

AND
PRISONS!

THAT'S
MICROMAX.
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING TO
HIM?

HE IS UNDER-
GOING A SERIES
OF MEDICAL
TESTS.

TESTS? WHY
IS HE BEING
RESTRAINED?

UNFORTUNATELY, MICRO-
MAX HAS A CAVALIER
ATTITUDE TO THE
OBLIGATION POSSES-
SION OF POWER
ENTAILS.

HE HAS TOTAL
MASTERY OVER
THE PHYSICAL
DIMENSIONS OF
HIS ANATOMY.

A REMARKABLE GIFT
HE CHOOSES TO WASTE
IN PURSUIT OF PER-
SONAL GRATIFICATION.

F.I.G. NO LONGER
EXISTS. ITS PERSONNEL
AND EQUIPMENT HAVE
BEEN ABSORBED INTO
THE R.C.X.

AND, SINCE YOUR SISTER'S
UNTIMELY DEATH, W.H.O.
HAS ALSO BEEN MERGED
WITH THE R.C.X. SO YOU
SEE, WE ARE ON THE SAME
TEAM.

WHAT HAS THAT TO
DO WITH YOU? MICRO-
MAX IS WITH F.I.G.

WHAT? DO YOU
SERIOUSLY EXPECT
ME TO WORK FOR
YOU?

YOU HAVE NO CHOICE. YOU'RE A GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE AND THE RECURRING CONTROL EXECUTIVE HAS PICKED UP YOUR CONTRACT.

LUKE, PLEASE--! WE ARE NOT VILLAINS, DOCTOR STUART. THIS FACILITY IS AUTHORIZED BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO CONTAIN, PROTECT, AND EDUCATE PARA-HUMANS--



GANGWAY!
MEDICAL
EMERGENCY.



WHO IS IT,
MR. JORDAN?

RESTROOM.
FOURTH-GRADE
TELEPATH.

TERMINAL
STABILIZATION
FAILURE--HE'S
FADING FAST.

ALISTAIR LOOKS INTO
PAIN-FILLED EYES AND
TIME SEEMS TO SUDDENLY
STOP.

WORDLESS THOUGHTS
CLANGOR TO BE HEARD.

FIRST RAW
EMOTIONS.
INTENSE,
CONFUSED.

THEN, STARK
MEMORIES.

AN INFANT,
SITTING ALONE
IN THE DARK.

WAITING.

WAITING...

-WAITING FOR
HIS MOTHER.

WAITING TO LIE
IN HER WARM
EMBRACE.

TO HEAR HER
SOFT VOICE
SINGING
SWEETLY.

TO FEEL HER LOVING THOUGHTS
TENDERLY WASHING OVER HIS
BUDDING TELEPATHIC SENSES.

HAPPY
TIMES.

BUT ALL
TOO BRIEF.

AND THE WAITING
IS SO VERY LONG.

ONE DAY LONGER
THAN USUAL.

TIME PASSES. DOUBT
BECOMES FEAR. FEAR
BECOMES TERROR.

FROM THE MYSTERIOUS
WORLD ABOVE, MOTHER'S
VOICE SHRIEKS IN FUTILE
PROTEST.

THEN, THROUGH THE
CELLAR DOOR, OTHERS
COME.

SHADOW MEN
WITH QUIET
KNIVES.

IN THE INTRUDERS'
THOUGHTS, THE
CHILD SEES HIM-
SELF FOR THE
FIRST TIME.

AND ROUGH HANDS
THAT DRAG THE
CHILD FROM SAFE
DARKNESS INTO
CRUEL LIGHT.

DISGUST, PITY,
FEAR LEAKS
THROUGH STAR-
TLED PSYCHIC
SHIELDS.

HE BEGINS
TO CRY.

TIME BLURS IN A LONG JOURNEY TO ANOTHER PLACE.

A COLD PLACE OF BARRED WINDOWS.

SILENT SHADOWS SCREAM DARK ANGRY THOUGHTS.

THEY GATHER MENACINGLY.

MOVING CLOSER, REACHING OUT...



...IN FRIEND-SHIP.

DON'T BE SCARED, LITTLE GUY. WE'LL LOOK AFTER YOU.

AND BOOY--AS ONLY A CHILD CAN--HE FORGETS THE DARK SEVERITY OF HIS NEW HOME.

NOW HE HAS FRIENDS, A FAMILY, A NEW NAME, **BEEBROOD**.

AND LURKING IN THE HALF-LIGHT, MYSTERIOUS GUARDIANS WHO SHAPE HIS DESTINY.

ORPINGTON-SMITH IS INTENT ON BUILDING AN ARMY.

WE CAN'T LET HIM USE THE CHILDREN.

WE'VE GOT TO GET THEM AWAY FROM HERE.

HE'S A POWERFUL MAN, WE'LL NEED PROTECTION.

WHO?

CAPTAIN BRITAIN.

ANOTHER JOURNEY, ANOTHER
NEW HOME -- BRADDOCK
MANOR.

A PLACE OF SPECIAL
PEOPLE WITH GLOWING
WINGS.

A LADYLIKE MOTHER,
BETSY, HER MIND SALES
TO BEETROOT.

AND HER
BROTHER.

... THE
CAPTAIN.

GROWN.
ALOE.
RADIATING
STRENGTH.

JUST HOW BEETROOT
WANTS TO BE WHEN
HE GROWS UP.

THERE IS MAGIC, TOO,
IN A CAVERN OF
SHINING STARS.

WHO IS SOMETIMES
MASTERMIND -- A
GIANT SUPER HERO.

THE GAMESMASTER
JEEVES, A GHOST-
MAN MADE OF LIGHT.

THESE ARE
HAPPY TIMES.

BUT THE HAPPY
TIMES NEVER
LAST.

BETSY AND
THE CAPTAIN
WENT AWAY.

SO BEETROOT SITS
AND WATCHES, AND
WAITS.

SHARING IN THE
JOYOUS EMOTIONS
OF MORE AGILE
BODIES

UNTIL A HOSTILE
THOUGHT TOUCHES
HIS MIND...

...TREACHERY!

BEETROOT TRIES TO
WARN THE SHADOW
MEN, BUT WALKING
IS SO DIFFICULT.

THOOM

THE WORLD
DISSOLVES IN
SEARING
LIGHT...

...AND THE
MAGIC CAVERN
DIED.

AGONIZED CONFUSION
GIVES WAY TO UNCON-
SCIOUSNESS.

TIME IS LOST
IN HAUNTED
DREAMS...

...BUT WHEN BEETROOT
WAKES, HE IS ALONE IN
A LIVING NIGHTMARE

COLD AND
ALONE.



MEANWHILE, ON A WAVE-
TOSSED CORNISH BEACH
ALONG ENGLAND'S MOST
SOUTHERLY COAST, JUST
BEFORE DAWN.



A TIME OF WILD
SERENITY.

A TIME
TO THINK.



... TO REFLECT
ON THE PAST.



... AND TO DREAM
OF THE FUTURE



NOT HAVING
SECOND THOUGHTS,
ARE YOU,
MEGGAN?

NO, BRIAN,
I'M HAPPY.

HAPPIER
THAN I'VE
EVER BEEN.

SO HAPPY
I COULDN'T
SLEEP.



I MISSED YOU.
WHY DIDN'T YOU
WAKE ME?

I DIDN'T WANT TO
DISTURB YOU. YOU'VE
LOOKED SO TIRED
LATELY.

DON'T BE
BILLY, I'M
FINE.





CLOUD
NINE...

PEANUT, NIGHT-
GAWLER'S GETTIN'
HEAVY. I F'INK ME
SUPA-STRENGTH IS
WEARIN' OFF.

SHADDUP,
Y' MORON.
YEE GIVIN'
ME EARACHE.

BRISTONE IS A HARMLESS
BY-PRODUCT OF MY TELE-
PORTATION PROCESS...

YOU F'INK I'M STOOPID, BUT I KNOW
ABOUT THESE THINGS. SOME GUY
BOTH THESE LAIRS FERN AN DUE, ONE
WHILE THE BUNTS OUT. I READ ALL ABOUT
IT IN CONGO. I MUST BE LIKE THAT GUY
I'M STARTIN' TO FEEL REAL NEAR...

THEN I WILL
RELIEVE YOU OF
YOUR BURDEN,
BEFORE YOUR
HINDLESS BAN-
TER DRIVES ME
INSANE.

BAMF

WHA...
PHOO!
WOTTA
POW.

...AND IS THE
LEAST OF YOUR
WORRIES.

YOIPES!
I'VE STUNNED
WEASEL.

OH
DEAR.

I REALLY
SHOULD HAVE
WORN A CRASH
HELMET.

I'LL OREAM
THE STINKER.

NO, IT'S
MINE!

YOU TWO
HAVE MUCH IN
COMMON.

I WILL
NOT COME
BETWEEN
YOU.

GOOR!



BRUTE STRENGTH IS HIGHLY OVER-RATED. SKILL IS A SUPERIOR ASSET.

JUDO, FOR INSTANCE...



...USES AN OPPONENT'S OWN MOMENTUM TO DEFEAT THE OPPONENT.



OR, IN THIS CASE, TWO OPPONENTS.



OH NO! OH NO, I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE.

FEAR NOT, PEANUT. I HAVE NO DESIRE TO HURT YOU.

I'M NOT SCARED OF YOU, *NOT!*

THAT TERMINAL YOU DEMOLISHED GENERATED A FORCE-WALL TO THE SNAKE PIT.



"YOU'VE LET THE SERPENTS OUT!"





SERPENTS...?
NO MATTER WHAT
THEIR NAME...



THEY WILL
FARE NO
BETTER...



... THAN YOUR
SERAPHIM.



THEN AGAIN, I
COULD BE MISTAKEN.
MERN GOTT, HOW
MANY OF THEM ARE
THERE?

LOTS / MORE
THAN YOU CAN
HANDLE.

SO WHY
DON'T YOU
GET US OUT
OF HERE?

LORDNO! THEY
HAVE KITTY AND
CERISE.

IT'S TOO LATE
FOR THEM. THE
SERPENTS ARE
VICIOUS, SOME
ARE CARNO-
VOROUS.

NOW TELEPORT US
OUT OF HERE BEFORE
THEY GET ME...US.



I WILL NOT DESERT MY FRIENDS--PEANUT, CAN YOU NEUTRALIZE THE SERPENTS' POWERS?

THEY DON'T HAVE ANY--PHYSICAL DEFORTUNITY ISN'T ALWAYS ACCOMPANIED BY NOVEL SUPER-POWERS--

--BUT THEY CAN STILL KILL. SO I'M ROLLING ON OUT OF HERE

...REALIZES SHE HAS STIRRED IN HIM LONG-BREED PASSION.

AND, SINCE YOU WON'T TELEPORT ME, I'VE FIXED IT SO YOU CAN'T EITHER.

NIGHTCRAWLER LONGER PEANUT'S COWARDLY TALENT HIS ATTENTION IS FIXED ON HIS FALLEN COMRADES--

--A ONE MORE SISTER THAN FRIEND--

...AND AN ALIEN AMERON, WHO HE HAS REGARDED AS A VALUED FRIEND AND COMPANION.

BUT IN BEING HERE IN MORTAL PERIL

PASSION HELD IN CHECK BY RIGOROUS DISCIPLINE.

BOTH IN THE PURSUIT OF PHYSICAL AND INTELLECTUAL PERFECTION...

...AND IN AN UN-
WAVERING CODE
OF HONOR--

--OF RESPONSIBILITY
TO HIS DUTY AND TO
THOSE HE LOVES.

BOILING EMOTIONS, USUALLY
HIDDEN FAR BENEATH A
FACADE OF GRACIOUS MANNER.

...EXPLODE
IN VIOLENT
RAGE.

HE THINKS OF RACHEL
SUMMERS, BELIEVING
HER FATE IS HIS
PERSONAL FAILURE.

HE WILL NEVER
FAIL A FRIEND
AGAIN.

COME ON,
YOU FIENDS.
WHO IS
NEXT?

THE SERPENTS RECOIL FROM THE
SAVAGE FURY THAT HAS BESTED
THE STRONGEST AMONG THEM.

THEY COWER
LIKE SCOLDED
CHILDREN.

AS HIS TEMPER COOLS, NIGHTCRAWLER FEELS PITY FOR HIS BROTESQUE ATTACKERS, TORTURED HUMANITY BURNS HELPLESSLY IN THEIR EYES.



MOST IMPRESSIVE, NIGHTCRAWLER.

YOU, SAVE ME! DO YOU THINK I AM A FOOL?

I HAVE BEEN ATTACKED WITH-
OUT PROVOCATION
AND I AM PRE-
PARED TO CONTINUE
THE FIGHT, IF YOU
SO WISH.



IF YOU KNOW WHO I AM, YOU ALSO KNOW I AM NOT A CRIMINAL.



ON THE CONTRARY, DEAR BOY, ALL THREE OF YOU ARE ILLEGAL ALIENS.

KURT WASHNER, A GERMAN.
KATHERINE PRYDE, AN AMERICAN...

...AND CERISS, A TRULY ALIEN ALIEN.



YOUR MARTIAL SKILLS EXCEED ALL PREVIOUS REPORTS. WE WILL HAVE TO UPDATE OUR FILES.

WE THOUGHT WE'D HAVE TO SAVE YOU.

THE SERPENTS ARE NOT RECEPTIVE TO ORDERS AND THE SERAPHIM WERE MERELY MAINTAINING SECURITY.

YOU WERE, AFTER ALL, TRESPASSING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY. THAT SORT OF BEHAVIOR MAY BE ACCEPTED IN THE COLONIES, BUT IT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED IN OUR FAIR LAND.



I HEREBY PLACE ALL THREE OF YOU UNDER ARREST PENDING OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION.

AS OF THIS MOMENT EXCALIBUR IS DISBANDED.

NEXT ISSUE: DENIAL.

SWORD STOKES

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
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TERRY KAVANAGH
EDITOR
MARK POWERS
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Attention correspondents: If you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

Dear Sword Stokes,
Re: EXCALIBUR #57

Whoa! What art! This guy rivals even Alan Davis! He certainly has a lot of different styles: a mix of Mark Texiera, Erik Larsen, Norm Breyfogle, even a very small touch of Todd McFarlane and Jim Lee. If Joe Madureira doesn't have a regular monthly comic, get him one! But keep Alan Davis as the penciler on EXCALIBUR — he always has the perfect atmosphere in his art when he draws the team.

Very interesting story. I'm curious to see the outcome of it all. Speaking on behalf of Wolverine in the second-to-last-panel, I would like to say, "Oooo..."

Until Excalibur fight against Ren & Stimpy, Make Mine Marvel!

Bent
43 South meadows Drive
Appleton, WI 54915

Joe's work was popular with nearly all of our correspondents this month, "Bent." (Guess you're not so bent after all, huh?)

Dear Sword Stokes,

I've never been to England, but it seems to me that Scott Lobdell has certainly captured the voice of the British story-teller. What I'm trying to say is that while reading this issue I would have gotten the urge to rush out and get some tea and crumpets if I had even the foggiest notion of what crumpets are. I have some strawberry soda and peanut butter crackers instead. That's all very English, I'm sure.

For some reason I kept hearing C-3PO's voice coming out of Captain Britain's mouth — weird, huh? Let's just say that with smash writing like this you may have saved me airfare to the British Isles. Simply wizard!

The big news of the issue, though, is the long overdue guest appearance of the X-Men. I've always tried to imagine what "Punkin'" would say to "Uncle Wolverine" when they finally reunited. After thinking of long, drawn-out paragraphs of apologies and platitudes, I don't think it could have been said better than "Eeyewee." I was glad that Kitty ran to Wolverine first. There is a deep relationship that had been neglected too long. I was also glad that Jubilee was classy enough not to serve any of her attitude to Kitty as she is prone to do with some of Logan's other female friends from the past.

Yes, this certainly was an enjoyable issue. With Alan Davis's solid plotting and the excellent art team, how could it have been anything but fantastic. So, until Captain Britain gets demoted, Make Mine Marvel!

"Jolly Old" Michael McClelland
6010 Glenview Ct.
Fort Smith, AR 72901

Strawberry soda...peanut butter crackers...C-3PO's voice...?..hmmmm...

Dear Terry,

Thank you for having Pyslocke appear in this title four issues in a row! Betsy is one of my favorite X-Men, so I was extremely pleased to see her in this title so many times. I especially enjoyed the Excalibur and X-Men team up and hope that they will do so more often in the future.

I nearly died from laughter seeing Wolverine's lethal claws turned into flimsy rubber! Scott Lobdell and Joe Madureira made an excellent guest team. I hope I will see more of their talents the next time Mr. Davis needs a breather.

It's too bad that Excalibur was not directly involved in the "X-cutioner's Song" storyline, but I hope the ramifications of the cross-over event will effect the British-based team. Perhaps Excalibur can be directly involved in the next X-tite crossover event. (Hint.)

Anyways, I'm eagerly anticipating the next storylines in which we finally learn Kurt's origin and see Phoenix/Rachel confront Galactus! Thanks for listening and keep up the great work!

Robert Hemecks
1731 E. 8th St.
Davis, CA

Robert, the effects of "X-cutioner's Song" will be felt in the Marvel Universe for a long time to come — and Excalibur is bound to suffer the consequences eventually.

Hope we're living up to your expectations with the Phoenix/Rachel storyline!

Dear People of the Sword,

I would like to say that I think EXCALIBUR as a whole is incredible! Not only are the pencils, inks, colors, letters and individual plots consistently exceptional, but EXCALIBUR stands out in its continued decision not to follow the recent trend in the other "mutant titles" by allowing the focus of the book to include humor, individual characters, inter-character relationships, and of course, adventure, rather than exclusively, never-ending, bloody combat. Please don't change this.

By the way, is Cerise by any chance Shiz? I mean with the technology she's got at her fingertips, and the feather-like hair, there's certainly some similarity.

Although Alan Davis is doing an excellent job on the stories, and the artists have been great lately, is he coming back to drawing? He is, by far, the best EXCALIBUR we ever had!

Well, until Feron gets a sparking personality, Make Mine EXCALIBUR!

(Name and address withheld upon request)

Cerise has many mysteries surrounding her — keep reading! And, not to worry — Alan Davis and Mark Farmer are already back with a vengeance!

Dear Sword Stokes,

I think all you guys doing EXCALIBUR are really doing a great job! I've really been

able to enjoy a comic book, for once. The X-Men coming to help in issue #57 was superb.

I've been buying EXCALIBUR since I figured out you guys have my favorite character in the Marvel Universe, Nightcrawler! I also like Shadowcat. Is it true that you're going to have an issue on Kurt's origin? With Amanda Sehn? Wow!!! I've been dying to know some stuff, like, what does his mother look like? What's her name? Does Kurt have any brothers or sisters? And why did his mother leave him with Eric Wagner way back in Germany?? Hurry, please hurry, and get that issue out!

So, until Mrs. Wagner makes an appearance, Make Mine Marvel!

Julie Branch
2824 Brandt Rd.
Panama City, FL 32405

Yes, Julie, we are planning on revealing more about Nightcrawler's mystery-shrouded past in the very near future! Keep watching...

Terry,

Alchemy!

Alright, I've been waiting for him to show up since the last time we saw him. Just make sure he stays alive long enough to join the New Mutants, uh...X-Force.

It's time to give Joe Madureira a title of his own, don't you think?

Steven LaBianca
1498 East 3rd St.
Brooklyn, NY 11230

Alchemy is taking a well-deserved break at the moment, Steven. And as for Joe Madureira, look for his work in the upcoming DEADPOOL limited series, as well as covers to MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS and X-MEN CLASSIC.

Dear Sword Stokes,

I just finished reading issue #57, and I have to say this is my all-time favorite issue of EXCALIBUR! Teaming up the X-Men and Excalibur was an awesome idea! Getting my most favorite female super heroes, Rogue, Shadowcat and Pyslocke, back together is way cool!

Keep up the excellent work. Well, from now until Excalibur is extinct, Make Mine Marvel!

Tom Rodriguez
P.O. Box 1921
Langley A.F.B., VA 23665

There are lots of EXCALIBUR readers who share your sentiments, Tom!

NEXT ISSUE: Phoenix is back — but where is Rachel Summers? And Captain Britain is losing his powers — but the R.C.X. still wants him!